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# Glancing at the Patch: Anomaly Localization with Global and Local Feature Comparison

Shenzhi Wang<sup>1</sup> Liwei Wu<sup>1</sup> Lei Cui<sup>1</sup> Yujun Shen<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup> SenseTime Research <sup>2</sup> The Chinese University of Hong Kong {wangshenzhi, wuliwei, cuilei}@sensetime.com syl16@ie.cuhk.edu.hk

## Abstract

Anomaly localization, with the purpose to segment the anomalous regions within images, is challenging due to the large variety of anomaly types. Existing methods typically train deep models by treating the entire image as a whole yet put little effort into learning the local distribution, which is vital for this pixel-precise task. In this work, we propose an unsupervised patch-based approach that gives due consideration to both the global and local information. More concretely, we employ a Local-Net and Global-Net to extract features from any individual patch and its surrounding respectively. Global-Net is trained with the purpose to mimic the local feature such that we can easily detect an abnormal patch when its feature mismatches that from the context. We further introduce an Inconsistency Anomaly Detection (IAD) head and a Distortion Anomaly Detection (DAD) head to sufficiently spot the discrepancy between global and local features. A scoring function derived from the multi-head design facilitates high-precision anomaly localization. Extensive experiments on a couple of real-world datasets suggest that our approach outperforms state-of-the-art competitors by a sufficiently large margin.

## **1. Introduction**

Anomaly detection has received broad attention in recent years due to its wide applications in industrial inspection [6, 7, 48, 11, 10, 32], medical diagnosis [51, 5, 46, 42], and surveillance [27, 30, 36]. Its primary goal is to identify anomalies from normal samples, usually treated as a bi-classification problem. Considering the ambiguous definition of anomaly types as well as the great imbalance between sufficient normal data and scarce abnormal data, a common practice is to learn the distribution of anomaly-free data and then use it as a criterion to detect outliers [43, 38, 42, 41, 14, 48].

Recent development of deep neural networks has significantly advanced this task with a more powerful capability



Figure 1. (a) Anomaly localization results where our approach can precisely segment the anomalous regions. From top to bottom: abnormal samples, ground-truth, and anomaly score maps produced by our algorithm. (b) Concept diagram of global and local feature comparison. Local-Net and Global-Net are employed to extract features from a patch and its surrounding respectively. Multiple anomaly detection heads are designed to determine whether the global and local features match or not.

in representation learning [7, 48, 28]. Most existing algorithms deploy deep models to spot anomalies at the instance level (*i.e.*, abnormal images belongs to different categories against normal ones) by extracting global feature from the entire image [14, 38, 49, 22, 37, 43, 2]. However, in many real cases, the anomalies simply differ from the regular data at some local areas [6, 32], as shown in Fig. 1a. From this perspective, localizing the anomalous regions at the pixel level is far more practical.

To solve this pixel-precise task, one feasible solution is to adopt generative models, such as Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) [42, 41, 47] and Auto-Encoders (AEs) [8, 11, 12, 51], which can produce images with per-pixel generation. But these approaches still treat each training image as a whole, omitting the learning of local information. An alternative solution is to pick patches from the image and then perform inspection on every patch to see whether there exists a defect [7, 10]. But this kind of approach does not consider the correlation between the patch and its surrounding. As a result, they can only detect the anomalous patches that have some flaws inside, but fail to handle the ordinary patches that are placed in the wrong position, like the second example shown in Fig. 1a where the top cable should be in green color.

In this work, we propose a novel framework for unsupervised anomaly localization with due consideration to both the global and local information. At the training stage, given a normal image, we randomly crop a patch and introduce a Local-Net and Global-Net to extract features from this patch and its surrounding respectively, as shown in Fig. 1b. Concretely, we develop the global feature to match the local feature, encouraging the Global-Net to conjecture the feature of the missing patch based on the context. For this purpose, we learn Global-Net jointly with an Inconsistency Anomaly Detection (IAD) head and a Distortion Anomaly Detection (DAD) head, leading to a fused metric to better measure the similarity between the global and local features. At the inference stage, a scoring function developed from the multi-head feature comparison is capable of producing an adequate score map from a test image to help localize anomalous regions, as shown in Fig. 1a. In summary, our contributions are:

- We propose a novel unsupervised anomaly localization approach by collecting both the global and local information from training data. In particular, the local feature extracted from an image patch is regressed by the global feature extracted from its surrounding.
- We introduce the multi-head feature comparison where the IAD head targets at spotting the mismatch between patches and surroundings while the DAD head aims to detect subtle defects occurring in the patch. We further derive a scoring function from this multi-head design, facilitating high-precision anomaly localization.
- We achieve state-of-the-art performances on a couple of real-world datasets, significantly surpassing existing methods. For example, on the recent MVTec AD dataset [6], which is specifically designed to benchmark the anomaly localization task, we beat the second competitor by 4.7% improvement (*i.e.*, from 91.4% to 96.1%) under the per-region-overlap (PRO) metric [6].

# 2. Related Work

We summarize existing anomaly detection methods into two categories: compress-based and reconstruct-based.

Compress-based. Compress-based methods typically project raw images [7, 10, 22, 48] or high-dimensional features [38, 43] into a low-dimensional feature space, where normal and abnormal examples are much more distinguishable. For this purpose, SVDD [38] considers a distance-minimize objective, which extracts the shared feature from normal examples while avoiding them to be the same. Based on [38], Yi and Yoon [48] propose a patch-based SVDD that contains multiple cores rather than a single core in [38], enabling anomaly segmentation. Bergmann et al. [7] utilize a pre-trained teacher network to embed image patches and estimate the anomaly score with a collection of student networks. Kwon et al. [22] argue that normal and abnormal images are more distinguishable at the backward gradient space. Some other methods [42, 41, 34] discover the underlying data distribution with the help of Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs). After training a GAN on normal data, they determine whether a test sample is anomalous based on the discriminator output.

**Reconstruct-based.** Reconstruct-based approaches assume that normal images can be described by a unified distribution in image space. They commonly utilize Auto-Encoders [40, 11, 20, 50, 17, 14, 36, 32] or GANs [49, 46, 37, 39, 5] to learn the distribution underlying normal data and then make the decision based on whether a test sample can be well recovered or not. To improve the reconstruction sharpness, prior work [11, 12] introduces the skip connections that provide the decoder with more spatial information. Gong et al. [14] and Park et al. [36] believe that limiting the generalization ability is vital in finding novel images, and hence propose a memory-based autoencoder to reconstruct images from features. Xia et al. [46] learn the image reconstruction from the image segmentation map instead of the original input. Pseudo-anomalies are also widely used to improve the performance of anomaly detection. Zaheer et al. [49] take the images reconstructed by old generators as another kind of anomalies. Huang et al. [20] apply data augmentation to improve the attribute restoration ability of the reconstruction model.

**Discussion.** Different from the above approaches, which learn representation either from a patch (local) or from the entire image (global), our algorithm gives due consideration to both the global and the local information and makes decision based on the comparison between local and global features. A recent work [35] also proposes to aggregate local and global information for anomaly detection. In particular, it employs the embedding learned from the compress-based method as the global information and treat the image recovered by the reconstructed-based method as the local information. Differently, we extract the local information from an image patch and the global information from its surrounding, forming an one-on-one matching.



Figure 2. Anomaly Localization Framework. (a) At the training stage, a Local-Net and Global-Net are employed to extract features from an image patch and its surrounding respectively. The Global-Net is jointly learned with an Inconsistency Anomaly Detection (IAD) head and a Distortion Anomaly Detection (DAD) head to mimic the output from the Local-Net. (b) At the inference stage, a scoring function is developed based on the feature comparison results produced by the IAD-head and DAD-head. Anomaly scores corresponding to different patches are aggregated together into an anomaly score map for anomaly localization.

## 3. Method

Given a training set of normal images  $\{I_1, I_2, ..., I_n\}$ , and a test set containing both anomaly and anomaly-free images  $\{I'_1, I'_2, ..., I'_m\}$ , the goal is to identify test images as normal or abnormal, and further localize the anomalous regions in abnormal samples.

In the following sections, we first discuss how to extract the local and global features from an image (Sec. 3.1), then explain the Inconsistency Anomaly Detection head (IADhead) and the Distortion Anomaly Detection head (DADhead) used for feature comparison (Sec. 3.2), and finally introduce the way to produce an anomaly score map from a test image at the inference stage (Sec. 3.3).

## **3.1. Local and Global Feature Extraction**

In this part, we introduce how to extract the local and the global feature from a patch and its surrounding, as shown in Fig. 2a.

**Local Feature Extraction.** We use Local-Net, a lightweight neural network, to embed image patches into local features. Since shallow networks distilled from deep networks trained on classification tasks show promising results in anomaly detection [7, 33, 32], we distill Local-Net from pre-trained ResNet-18 [19]. Concretely, Local-Net is first distilled on ImageNet [13], and then fine-tuned on a particular training set. Knowledge distillation loss [7] and compactness loss [44] are utilized in distillation and finetuning. Here, the knowledge distillation loss is defined as

$$l_k = ||\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p})) - \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{p})||_2^2, \qquad (1)$$

where **p** is the image patch and  $|| \cdot ||_2$  denotes the  $\ell_2$ 

norm.  $\mathcal{L}(\cdot)$  and  $\mathcal{R}(\cdot)$  stand for Local-Net and the teacher model (*i.e.*, the pre-trained ResNet-18) respectively.  $\mathcal{D}(\cdot)$  is a decoder to ensure  $\mathcal{L}(\cdot)$  and  $\mathcal{R}(\cdot)$  to have same output dimension.

The compactness loss is formulated as

$$l_c = \sum_{i \neq j} c_{ij},\tag{2}$$

where  $c_{ij}$  represents the (i, j) entry in the correlation matrix over the Local-Net outputs  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p})$  within a mini-batch.

Overall, the Local-Net is optimized with

$$l_{local} = \lambda_k l_k + \lambda_c l_c, \tag{3}$$

where  $\lambda_k$  and  $\lambda_c$  are loss weights to balance different terms. After distillation and fine-tuning, the local feature  $\mathbf{Z}_l$  can be extracted by the Local-Net as

$$\mathbf{Z}_l = \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}). \tag{4}$$

Note that the learning of the Local-Net is referred as pretraining in our framework. During the training of Global-Net and DAD-head, as discussed below, parameters of the Local-Net are fixed.

**Global Feature Extraction.** Another deep model, named Global-Net, is employed to extract the global feature from the surrounding of the patch  $I \ p$ . To prevent the local feature from disturbing the global feature, we apply partial convolution [25] to our Global-Net. Specifically, for every convolutional layer in the Global-Net, the convolution operation at every location is formulated as

$$x' = \begin{cases} \mathbf{W}^{\mathbf{T}}(\mathbf{X} \odot \mathbf{M}) \frac{\operatorname{sum}(\mathbf{1})}{\operatorname{sum}(\mathbf{M})} + b, & \text{if } \operatorname{sum}(\mathbf{M}) > 0\\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
(5)

Here,  $\odot$  represents the element-wise product, **X** denotes the input feature map, and **M** is the binary mask in current layer. For every pooling layer, feature map is updated as the normal pooling, and **M** is refreshed with the binary version of the mask's pooling result. The initial mask **M**<sub>0</sub> is defined as a binary matrix where the patch's pixels are zero and the others are one. Therefore, Global-Net  $\mathcal{G}(\cdot)$  can extract global feature **Z**<sub>g</sub> without peeking at the patch, as formulated below:

$$\mathbf{Z}_q = \mathcal{G}(\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{M_0}). \tag{6}$$

#### **3.2.** Anomaly Detection Heads

In this part, we introduce two anomaly detection heads, *i.e.*, the Inconsistency Anomaly Detection head (IAD-head) and the Distortion Anomaly Detection head (DAD-head). As shown in Fig. 2a, IAD-head and DAD-head accept the local feature and the global feature extracted from the patch and its surrounding and make comparison between these two features.

**Inconsistency Anomaly Detection Head.** Inconsistency anomaly detection head (IAD-head) is designed to detect the inconsistency between the local feature  $\mathbf{Z}_l$  and the global feature  $\mathbf{Z}_g$  with

$$l_{\rm IAD} = \frac{1}{n} ||\mathbf{Z}_l - \mathbf{Z}_g||_2^2,$$
(7)

where n is the dimension of both the local feature and the global feature.

We assume that in normal images local and global features are consistent, while in abnormal images the situation is the contrary. Therefore, in the training process,  $l_{IAD}$ is utilized as a loss to close the distance between  $\mathbf{Z}_l$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_g$ . During inference,  $l_{IAD}$  serves as a scoring function to indicate the global-local inconsistency lying in the patch, which will be discussed in Sec. 3.3.

**Distortion Anomaly Detection Head.** Distortion anomaly detection head (DAD-head) is a trainable head, which aims to detect the distortions in images, e.g., bent grids and cut carpets. Compared with the IAD-head that focuses on the mismatch between the patch and its surrounding, the DAD-head is capable of spotting tiny defects localized in the patch. Concretely, the DAD-head exploits a number of fully-connected layers to determine whether distortions exist in the patch. In addition to the original patch p, we introduce a negative patch  $p^-$  following [28, 11], which is generated by adding a random small stain on p. The reason for constructing negative patches in this way is to maintain the majority of the patch and introduce only tiny differences, encouraging the DAD-head to spot small distortions. The features extracted from p and  $p^-$  are equiprobably fed into the DAD-head together with the global feature  $\mathbf{Z}_{q}$ . Then the DAD-head determines whether the input local feature is  $\mathbf{Z}_l$  or  $\mathbf{Z}_l^-$  by producing a positive probability

$$p = \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{Z}^*, \mathbf{Z}_g), \tag{8}$$

where  $C(\cdot, \cdot)$  is the classification network in the DAD-head.  $\mathbf{Z}^*$  can be either local feature  $\mathbf{Z}_l$  or negative local feature  $\mathbf{Z}_l^-$ . During training, the classifier in the DAD-head is supervised by a cross-entropy loss as

$$l_{\text{DAD}} = -(y \log(p) + (1 - y) \log(1 - p)), \qquad (9)$$

where y is the target output of the classifier, *i.e.*, 0 for the positive patch and 1 for the negative patch.

**Training Objective.** The total training loss for the Global-Net and the DAD-head is

$$l = l_{\rm IAD} + \lambda_t l_{\rm DAD},\tag{10}$$

where  $\lambda_t$  is a loss weight to balance different energies. Intuitively,  $l_{IAD}$  guides the Global-Net to imagine the local distribution, while  $l_{DAD}$  encourages the Global-Net to learn a more distinguishable representation. Meanwhile, the DAD-head is trained to find the subtle differences between normal and distorted patches.

#### 3.3. Anomaly Localization

**Scoring Function.** At the inference stage, we feed local feature  $\mathbf{Z}_l$  and global feature  $\mathbf{Z}_g$  into the IAD-head to generate the inconsistency anomaly score

$$s_{\text{IAD}} = \frac{1}{n} ||\mathbf{Z}_l - \mathbf{Z}_g||_2^2.$$
 (11)

We also feed them into the DAD-head to produce the distortion anomaly score

$$s_{\text{DAD}} = 1 - \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{Z}_l, \mathbf{Z}_q). \tag{12}$$

Finally, our scoring function integrates these two scores:

$$s = \lambda_s s_{\text{IAD}} + (1 - \lambda_s) s_{\text{DAD}}, \tag{13}$$

where  $\lambda_s$  is a hyper-parameter to balance the inconsistency anomaly score  $s_{\text{IAD}}$  and the distortion anomaly score  $s_{\text{DAD}}$ . We set  $\lambda_s = 0.8$  in our experiments. Detailed study on  $\lambda_s$ can be found in Sec. 4.4.

Anomaly Score Map. With the scoring function to assign the anomaly score to a particular patch, we further propose a pipeline to aggregate the anomaly scores for different patches into an anomaly score map. Concretely, we generate image patches one after another, and organize them in a raster-scan order, as shown in Fig. 2b. Overlap is allowed between two adjacent image patches. We assign an anomaly score for each patch with the scoring function in Eq. (13), and construct an anomaly score map for the entire image with the inverse distance weighted (IDW) interpolation.

## 4. Experiments

In this section, we study our model's performance on pixel-level anomaly detection task (Sec. 4.2), and image-level one-class classification task (Sec. 4.3). Qualitative and quantitative results show our approach attains state-of-theart performance compared with other methods.

## 4.1. Datasets

**MVTec AD.** MVTec AD [6] is a real-world industrial image anomaly detection dataset with 5354 high-resolution images in 15 categories. The training set has 3629 normal images, and the test set contains 1725 normal or abnormal images. The ground truth in the test set includes both labels and anomaly masks. We follow the original dataset split of MVTec AD, *i.e.*, use only anomaly-free images in training, and test on both normal and abnormal images.

**CIFAR-10.** CIFAR-10 [21] includes 60000 tiny images with 10 classes. In each class, 5000 images are used for training, and the other 1000 images for testing. We follow the protocol in GradCon [22] to split dataset for oneclass classification task. Specifically, based on the original training-test split of CIFAR-10, we construct the training set from images of one class as inliers, and build the test set from inlier images and the same number of outlier images randomly sampled from other classes.

## 4.2. Pixel-level Anomaly Localization

We evaluate our approach's localization ability on the pixel-level anomaly detection task. Both qualitative and quantitative results are provided.

**Setup.** For pre-training Local-Net, following [7], we first distill Local-Net from pre-trained ResNet-18 on ImageNet [13], and then fine-tune it into the specific category in MVTec AD with the same loss as that in distillation. When training Global-Net and DAD-head, we randomly crop patch **p** from the image, and add some random stains on the patch to produce  $\mathbf{p}^-$ . Then Global-Net and DAD-head are trained with the loss in Eq. (10). At inference stage, image patches are cropped in a roster-scan order, and the anomaly score *s* for each patch is estimated according to Eq. (13) with  $\lambda_s = 0.8$ . Finally, anomaly score maps of images are constructed as discussed in Sec. 3.3. More implementation details can be found in *Supplementary Material*.

**Baselines.** We have two parts of competitors. The first part is baselines in [6, 7], including the 1-NN classifier [3], the One-Class SVM (OCSVM) [43], the K-Means classifier [29], deterministic autoencoder with  $l_2$ -reconstruction error as the anomaly score ( $l_2$ -AE) [16], variational autoencoder with reconstruction probability as the anomaly score (VAE) [4], CNN-Feature Dictionary (CNN-FD) [32], the SSIM-Autoencoder (SSIM-AE) [8] and AnoGAN [42]. The results for above methods are all reported in [6, 7]. The



Figure 3. Qualitative anomaly localization results on MVTec AD dataset [6]. For each example, the images from left to right are the defective image, the ground-truth, and the anomaly score map produced by our algorithm. Zoom in for details.

second part is recently peer-reviewed models, including teacher-student (TS) [7], Visually Explained Variational Autoencoder (VAVAE) [26], Superpixel Masking and Inpainting (SMAI) [23], Gradient Descent Reconstruction with VAEs (GDR) [12], Encoding Structure-Texture Relation with P-Net for AD (P-Net) [51]. The results for models in the second part are reported in the original papers.

**Qualitative Results.** Fig. 3 shows our qualitative results in MVTec AD [6]. Our approach satisfactorily addresses all kinds of anomalies and further locates the subtle defects. More anomaly localization results can be found in *Supplementary Material*.

To further illustrate the importance of the global and local feature comparison in anomaly localization, in Fig. 4 we qualitatively compare our model with TS [7], which only utilizes the local feature of the patch. When encountering some hard anomalies which seems totally normal in any single patch, *e.g.*, misplacement, swapping and bend in Fig. 4, local feature based models cannot detect the anomalies, while our method handles them excellently.

**Quantitative Results in PRO.** We follow the protocol in [6, 7], and use the per-region-overlap (PRO) as the evaluation metric. Unlike other per-pixel metrics, PRO weights ground-truth regions equally regardless of region sizes [7]. Specifically, as described in TS [7], we increase the threshold until the average per-pixel false positive rate reaches 30%. For each threshold, we calculate the PRO value, *i.e.*, the average ratio of the area detected as anomalous in each anomaly connected component. And the final metric is the normalized area under the PRO curve.

We compare our results with all the baselines that report the PRO metric. Tab. 1 shows the comparison results. Our method outperforms the other methods by a wide margin.

Table 1. Comparison results among different anomaly detection methods in the **pixel-level anomaly localization task on MVTec AD dataset** [6]. Competitors include 1-NN [3], OC-SVM [43], K-Means [29],  $l_2$ -AE [16], VAE [4], SSIM-AE [8], AnoGAN [42], CNN-FD [32] and TS [7]. The results of baselines are borrowed from [6, 7]. **Per-region-overlap (PRO)** [7] is used as the evaluation metric.

	Category	1-NN	OC-SVM	K-Means	$l_2$ -AE	VAE	SSIM-AE	AnoGAN	CNN-FD	TS	Ours
xture	Carpet	0.512	0.355	0.253	0.456	0.501	0.647	0.204	0.469	0.879	0.977
	Grid	0.228	0.125	0.107	0.582	0.224	0.849	0.226	0.183	0.952	0.932
	Leather	0.446	0.306	0.308	0.819	0.635	0.561	0.378	0.641	0.945	0.909
Te	Tile	0.822	0.722	0.779	0.897	0.870	0.175	0.177	0.797	0.946	0.883
	Wood	0.502	0.336	0.411	0.727	0.628	0.605	0.386	0.621	0.911	0.941
Object	Bottle	0.898	0.850	0.495	0.910	0.897	0.834	0.620	0.742	0.931	0.968
	Cable	0.806	0.431	0.513	0.825	0.654	0.478	0.383	0.558	0.818	0.980
	Capsule	0.631	0.554	0.387	0.862	0.526	0.860	0.306	0.306	0.968	0.960
	Hazelnut	0.861	0.616	0.698	0.917	0.878	0.916	0.698	0.844	0.965	0.962
	Metal Nut	0.705	0.319	0.351	0.830	0.576	0.603	0.320	0.358	0.942	0.967
	Pill	0.725	0.544	0.514	0.893	0.769	0.830	0.776	0.460	0.961	0.978
	Screw	0.604	0.644	0.550	0.754	0.559	0.887	0.466	0.277	0.942	1.000
	Toothbrush	0.675	0.538	0.337	0.822	0.693	0.784	0.749	0.151	0.933	0.961
	Transistor	0.680	0.496	0.399	0.728	0.626	0.725	0.549	0.628	0.666	0.999
	Zipper	0.512	0.355	0.253	0.839	0.549	0.665	0.467	0.703	0.951	0.992
	Mean	0.640	0.479	0.423	0.790	0.639	0.694	0.443	0.515	0.914	0.961

Specifically, in comparison with TS [7], the state-of-theart competitor, our model exceeds greatly in categories such as the cable and transistor. This is identical with our observation in Fig. 4, for TS fails in the anomaly cases involved with global and local feature comparison.

**Quantitative Results in Pixel-level AUROC.** We further provide quantitative results on pixel-level AUROC [6]. The comparison with all the baselines that report pixel-level AUROC is shown in Tab. 2. Our model substantially surpasses other methods in pixel-wise AUROC ( $\geq 2\%$ ). This conclusion is consistent with that in PRO results above. **Discussion.** Recall that, for each category in the MVTec AD dataset, we train a separate model only on the normal data with exactly the same configuration (*e.g.*, hyperparameters like learning rate, training epochs, *etc.*). Results in Tab. 1 and Tab. 2 show that our approach is generalizable to various types of data, suggesting strong robustness.

#### 4.3. Image-level Anomaly Detection

To further prove that our method is able to handle various tasks in anomaly detection, our model is applied to imagelevel anomaly detection task. Here we present the results of unsupervised one-class classification on CIFAR-10 [21].<sup>1</sup> **Setup.** During pre-training, the distillation process is the same as that in Sec. 4.2, and when fine-tuning on each category of CIFAR-10, we resize each image into the patch size, which functions as the image patch in Sec. 4.2.

During training Global-Net and DAD-head, every single image is reshaped to the patch size and the image size, denoted as  $I_L$  and  $I_G$ , respectively. Then we input  $I_L$  and



Figure 4. Qualitative comparisons on MVTec AD dataset [6] between TS [7], which considers only local patches for anomaly localization, and our approach. Through adequately utilizing both the global and the local information, we manage to identify the transistor shift (first row), the cable swap (second row), and metal nut bend (third row) anomalies that are omitted by TS.

 $I_G$  into Local-Net and Global-Net to generate the local and global feature. The negative local feature is produced by feeding a random different image (resized into the patch size) into Local-Net. The other procedures are the same as those in the experiments on MVTec AD. Further details can be found in *Supplementary Material*.

**Baselines.** Our competitors include OC-SVM [43], KDE [9],  $l_2$ -AE [16], VAE [4], pixelCNN [45], LSA [1], AnoGAN [42], DSVDD [38], OCGAN [37], and GradCon [22]. The results of baselines are borrowed from [37, 22].

Quantitative Results in AUROC. Image-level AUROC comparisons with baselines on CIFAR-10 are shown in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Our approach also excels in image-level anomaly detection task on MVTec AD [6], which is discussed in *Supplementary Material*.

Table 2. Comparison results among different anomaly detection methods in the **pixel-level anomaly localization task on MVTec AD dataset** [6]. Competitors include SSIM-AE [8],  $l_2$ -AE [16], AnoGAN [42], CNN-FD [32], VEVAE [26], SMAI [23], GDR [12] and P-Net [51]. The results of SSIM-AE,  $l_2$ -AE, AnoGAN and CNN-FD are borrowed from the MVTec AD paper [6], and the results of VEVAE, SMAI, GDR and P-Net are reported in their original papers. **Pixel-level AUROC** is utilized as the evaluation metric.

	Category	SSIM-AE	$l_2$ -AE	AnoGAN	CNN-FD	VEVAE	SMAI	GDR	P-Net	Ours
xture	Carpet	0.87	0.59	0.54	0.72	0.78	0.88	0.74	0.57	0.96
	Grid	0.94	0.90	0.58	0.59	0.73	0.97	0.96	0.98	0.78
	Leather	0.78	0.75	0.64	0.87	0.95	0.86	0.93	0.89	0.90
T	Tile	0.59	0.51	0.5	0.93	0.80	0.62	0.65	0.97	0.80
	Wood	0.73	0.73	0.62	0.91	0.77	0.80	0.84	0.98	0.81
	Bottle	0.93	0.86	0.86	0.78	0.87	0.86	0.92	0.99	0.93
	Cable	0.82	0.86	0.78	0.79	0.90	0.92	0.91	0.70	0.94
	Capsule	0.94	0.88	0.84	0.84	0.74	0.93	0.92	0.84	0.90
	Hazelnut	0.97	0.95	0.87	0.72	0.98	0.97	0.98	0.97	0.84
jec	Metal Nut	0.89	0.86	0.76	0.82	0.94	0.92	0.91	0.79	0.91
q	Pill	0.91	0.85	0.87	0.68	0.83	0.92	0.93	0.91	0.93
	Screw	0.96	0.96	0.8	0.87	0.97	0.96	0.95	1.00	0.96
	Toothbrush	0.92	0.93	0.90	0.77	0.94	0.96	0.99	0.99	0.96
	Transistor	0.90	0.86	0.80	0.66	0.93	0.85	0.92	0.82	1.00
	Zipper	0.88	0.77	0.78	0.76	0.78	0.90	0.87	0.90	0.99
	Mean	0.86	0.82	0.74	0.78	0.86	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.91

Tab. 3. Our method considerably exceeds the second stateof-the-art, GradCon [22], by 4.1% in image-level AUROC. The results show that our model is adaptive to different settings of anomaly detection.

### 4.4. Analysis on Multi-head Feature Comparison

In this section, we first conduct ablation study on IADhead and DAD-head, and further analyze the different discriminative ability in view of these two heads.

Ablation Study. To evaluate the effectiveness of joint scoring function of the IAD-head and DAD-head, *i.e.*, Eq. (13), we vary  $\lambda_s$  from 0.0 to 1.0, and calculate the PRO metric on each category. According to Eq. (13), larger  $\lambda_s$  results in greater proportion of  $s_{\text{IAD}}$  in the synthetic anomaly score s, while the proportion of  $s_{\text{DAD}}$  decreases accordingly. In the extreme case, s will degenerate into  $s_{\text{DAD}}$  or  $s_{\text{IAD}}$  if  $\lambda_s$  equals 0 or 1, respectively.

Tab. 4 shows the PRO results of our method under different values of  $\lambda_s$ . Overall, multi-head scoring function performs better than single-head ones, with 4.9% and 0.7% increase compared to single DAD-head and single IAD-head scoring function, respectively. More concretely, categories of textures (*e.g.*, carpet, grid and wood) enjoy greater improvement than those of objects after applying multi-head scoring function. We infer this is because much more repetitive patterns are contained in textures than in objects, and multi-head strategy is conducive to a more distinguishable feature representation, enhancing our model's anomaly localization ability greatly on textures.

However, it should be noticed that in Tab. 4, the overall

performances of single DAD-head are worse than those of single IAD-head for both texture and object classes. The reason might be that the performance of DAD-head is highly correlative with the way to construct negative patches. That is, if the construction approach is similar to the real anomalies, DAD-head might perform better, otherwise might perform worse. In our experiment, to involve *no* priori knowledge, we utilize a simple negative patch construction approach and apply the same method to all the different classes, yet DAD-head still shows great potential in cooperation with IAD-head. To further improve performance of DAD-head, we encourage users to modify the negative patch construction way according to the realworld scenarios.

Feature Visualization. To better understand the different discriminative abilities in view of IAD-head and DADhead, we visualize the global and local features under the metrics of IAD-head and DAD-head. Fig. 5 shows the feature visualization for the texture and object. We randomly crop 800 patches from both texture-type (i.e., carpet) and object-type (i.e., cable) defective images, and utilize t-SNE [31] to visualize the features of the abnormal patches and their surroundings. As shown in Fig. 5a, compared with IAD-head, DAD-head is more discriminative on the texture, presenting a clear boundary between anomalies' local and global features. On the contrary, Fig. 5b illustrates that IAD-head seperates abnormal local and global features better than DAD-head on the object. Different discriminative abilities of IAD-head and DAD-head ensure excellent performance of the multi-head anomaly detection mechanism in various situations.



Figure 5. **Visualization of the global and local features** under the metrics provided by the two anomaly detection heads, *i.e.*, IAD-head and DAD-head. Abnormal patches selected from 800 patches in MVTec AD dataset [6], together with their surroundings, are used for both texture-type (*i.e.*, carpet) and object-type (*i.e.*, cable) visualization. The color map indicates the ratio of the ground-truth anomalous area to each individual patch. Triangles and circles stand for the global and local features respectively. It turns out that texture features are more distinguishable in the view of DAD-head while object features can be better differentiated by IAD-head.

Table 3. Comparison results among different one-class classification methods in the **image-level anomaly detection task on CIFAR-10** [21]. Competitors include OC-SVM [43], KDE [9],  $l_2$ -AE [16], VAE [4], PixelCNN [45], LSA [1], AnoGAN [42], DSVDD [38], OCGAN [37] and GradCon [22]. The results of baselines are borrowed from [22, 37]. **Image-level AUROC** is utilized as the evaluation metric.

Normal Class	OC-SVM	KDE	$l_2$ -AE	VAE	PixelCNN	LSA	AnoGAN	DSVDD	OCGAN	GradCon	Ours
Airplane	0.630	0.658	0.411	0.634	0.788	0.735	0.671	0.617	0.757	0.760	0.791
Automobile	0.440	0.520	0.478	0.442	0.428	0.580	0.547	0.659	0.531	0.598	0.703
Bird	0.649	0.657	0.616	0.640	0.617	0.690	0.529	0.508	0.640	0.648	0.675
Cat	0.487	0.497	0.562	0.497	0.574	0.542	0.545	0.591	0.620	0.586	0.561
Deer	0.735	0.727	0.728	0.743	0.511	0.761	0.651	0.609	0.723	0.733	0.739
Dog	0.500	0.496	0.513	0.515	0.571	0.546	0.603	0.657	0.620	0.603	0.638
Frog	0.725	0.758	0.688	0.745	0.422	0.751	0.585	0.677	0.723	0.684	0.732
Horse	0.533	0.564	0.497	0.527	0.454	0.535	0.625	0.673	0.575	0.567	0.674
Ship	0.649	0.680	0.487	0.674	0.715	0.717	0.758	0.759	0.820	0.784	0.814
Truck	0.508	0.540	0.378	0.416	0.426	0.548	0.665	0.731	0.554	0.678	0.722
Mean	0.586	0.610	0.536	0.583	0.551	0.641	0.618	0.648	0.657	0.664	0.705

Table 4. Results of ablation study on the multi-head scoring function.  $\lambda_s$  in Eq. (13) varies from 0.0 to 1.0 with step 0.2. The categories having better performance with multi-head scoring functions than with single-head ones is highlighted in boldface. **Per-region-overlap (PRO)** is used as the evaluation metric.

Category	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.0
Carpet	0.963	0.966	0.968	0.972	0.977	0.965
Grid	0.868	0.882	0.907	0.932	0.932	0.894
Leather	0.899	0.902	0.909	0.911	0.909	0.896
Tile	0.951	0.920	0.905	0.895	0.883	0.874
Wood	0.832	0.900	0.925	0.941	0.941	0.920
Bottle	0.928	0.956	0.965	0.966	0.968	0.965
Cable	0.941	0.980	0.991	0.989	0.980	0.961
Capsule	0.843	0.884	0.910	0.937	0.960	0.978
Hazelnut	0.937	0.937	0.949	0.957	0.962	0.964
Metal Nut	0.921	0.930	0.941	0.956	0.967	0.971
Pill	0.875	0.935	0.958	0.971	0.978	0.978
Screw	0.948	0.986	0.996	0.999	1.000	1.000
Toothbrush	0.897	0.913	0.934	0.948	0.961	0.966
Transistor	0.883	0.935	0.972	0.993	0.999	0.997
Zipper	0.995	0.995	0.995	0.994	0.992	0.974
Mean	0.912	0.935	0.948	0.957	0.961	0.954

## 5. Conclusion and Discussion

In this work, we propose an unsupervised anomaly localization approach with due consideration to both the global and the local information from an image. Two anomaly detection heads are introduced to sufficiently spot the discrepancy between global and local features. With the scoring function developed from such multi-head design, we achieve high-precision anomaly localization, significantly surpassing state-of-the-art alternatives.

However, there still remains some future work worth exploration. On one hand, our approach uses a fixed patch size regardless of the anomaly type. To further improve the robustness under various anomaly scales, techniques such as score map averaging [7] and feature pyramid [24] could be considered. On the other hand, Local-Net in our work is distilled from a deep model pre-trained on ImageNet. Self-supervised learning methods [18, 15] might be of benefit to getting a better representation on specific datasets. Nevertheless, our approach sheds light on a promising direction by relating the individual patches with their surroundings for the anomaly localization task.

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